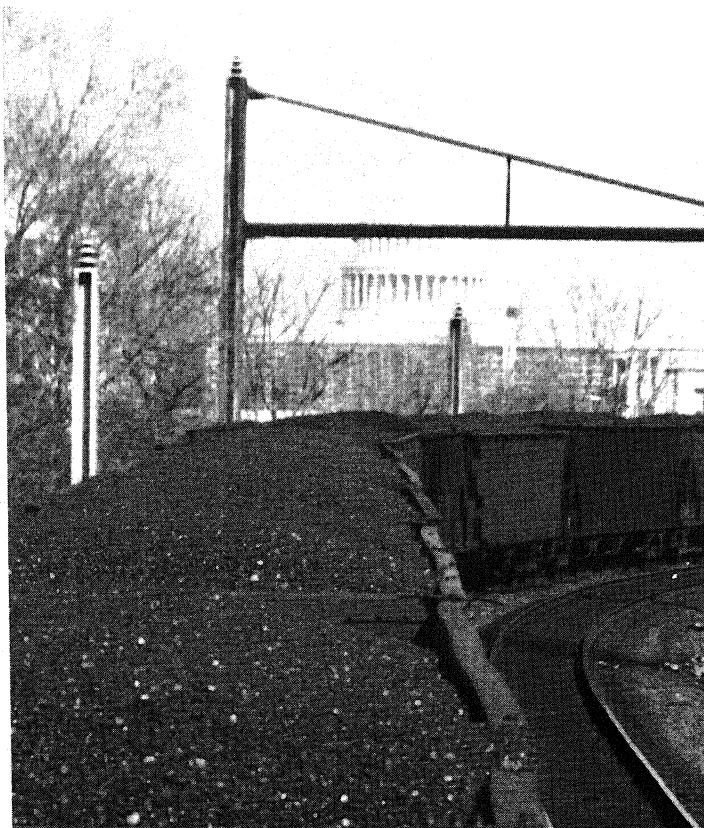




Energy Information Administration
Washington, DC

Weekly Coal Production

Production for Week Ended:
May 20, 1989



Preface

The *Weekly Coal Production (WCP)* provides weekly production estimates of U.S. coal by State, as well as supplementary data which are usually published twice a month. The Coal Exports and Imports Supplement contains annual as well as detailed monthly data on U.S. coal and coke exports and imports. Another supplement contains detailed monthly data covering electric utility coal consumption, stocks, and receipts (quantity and price).

This publication is prepared by the Coal Division; Office of Coal, Nuclear, Electric and Alternate Fuels; Energy Information Administration (EIA) to fulfill its data collection and dissemination responsibilities as

specified in the Federal Energy Administration Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-275) as amended. *Weekly Coal Production* is intended for use by industry, press, State and local governments, and consumers. Other publications that may be of interest are the quarterly *Coal Distribution Report*, the *Quarterly Coal Report*, *Coal Production 1987*, and *Coal Data: A Reference*.

This publication was prepared by Wayne M. Watson under the direction of Mary K. Paull and Noel C. Balthasar, Chief, Data Systems Branch. *Questions on energy statistics should be directed to the National Energy Information Center (NEIC) at (202)586-8800*.

• Released for Printing May 26, 1989

Summary

U.S. coal production in the week ended May 20, 1989, as estimated by the Energy Information Administration, totaled 19 million short tons, approximately the same as the previous week. Since the week ended Feb-

ruary 11, 1989, weekly U. S. coal production has been 18.5 million short tons or more and averaged 6 percent above the comparable period in 1988.

Figure 1. Coal Production

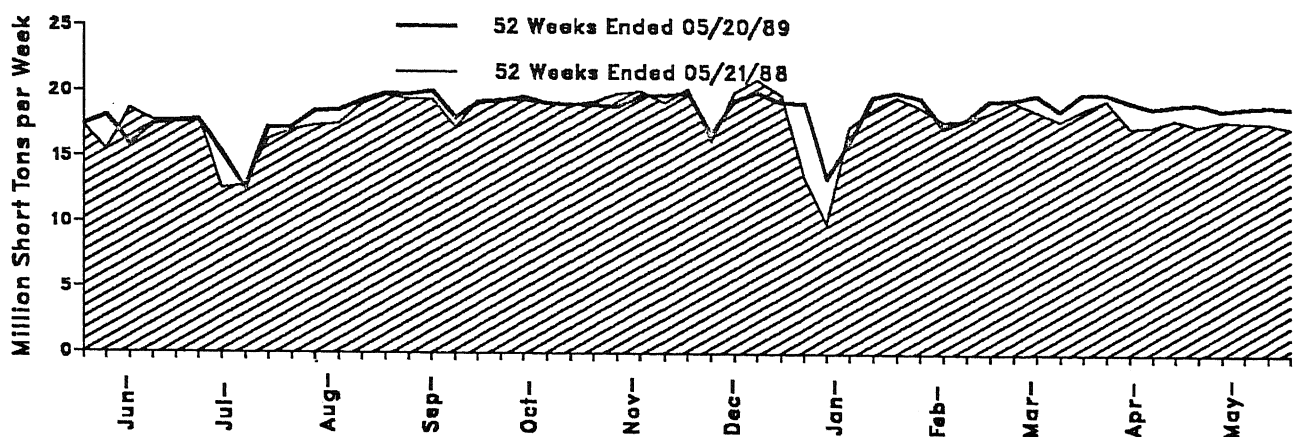


Table 1. Coal Production

Production and Carloadings	Week Ended			52 Weeks Ended		
	05/20/89	05/13/89	05/21/88	05/20/89	05/21/88	Percent Change
Production (Thousand Short Tons)						
Bituminous ¹ and Lignite	18,896	19,011	17,336	961,519	931,965	3.2
Pennsylvania Anthracite	63	62	67	3,431	3,639	-5.7
U.S. Total	18,959	19,074	17,403	964,950	935,604	3.1
Railroad Cars Loaded	126,737	127,200	115,653	6,380,760	6,020,874	

¹ Includes subbituminous coal.

Notes: All data are preliminary. Total may not equal sum of components because of independent rounding.

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportation Division, Weekly Statement CS-54A; Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report"; Form EIA-7A, "Coal Production Report"; and, State mining agency coal production reports.

Table 2. Coal Production by State
(Thousand Short Tons)

Region and State	Week Ended		
	05/20/89	05/13/89	05/21/88
Bituminous Coal¹ and Lignite			
East of the Mississippi	11,787	11,707	10,878
Alabama	611	591	505
Illinois	1,249	1,181	1,092
Indiana	632	638	582
Kentucky	3,111	3,107	2,902
Kentucky, Eastern	2,303	2,299	2,155
Kentucky, Western	809	808	748
Maryland	71	72	60
Ohio	630	633	607
Pennsylvania Bituminous	1,361	1,300	1,465
Tennessee	134	135	118
Virginia	1,028	1,039	893
West Virginia	2,959	3,011	2,654
West of the Mississippi	7,109	7,304	6,458
Alaska	27	28	26
Arizona	255	256	220
Arkansas	4	4	4
Colorado	397	401	328
Iowa	6	6	7
Kansas	10	10	9
Louisiana	34	75	76
Missouri	72	72	71
Montana	635	649	627
New Mexico	597	558	336
North Dakota	535	546	466
Oklahoma	46	48	38
Texas	1,084	1,088	997
Utah	328	337	343
Washington	95	96	106
Wyoming	2,984	3,130	2,804
Bituminous¹ and Lignite Total	18,896	19,011	17,336
Pennsylvania Anthracite	63	62	67
U.S. Total	18,959	19,074	17,403

¹ Includes subbituminous coal.

Notes: All data are preliminary. Total may not equal sum of components because of independent rounding.

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportation Division, Weekly Statement CS-54A; Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report"; Form EIA-7A, "Coal Production Report"; and, State mining agency coal production reports.

Coal Highlights

Mississippi Coal Discovery

Western Clay County, Mississippi, holds the potential of a 3.5 billion ton reserve of high-grade bituminous coal and 700 cubic feet of coalbed methane gas. According to the Mississippi Bureau of Geology, it is estimated to be large enough to alter the economy of the State, as well as the region. The rank of coal is comparable with much of the identified coal resources of Alabama.

A significant portion of the reserves may be economically attractive for underground mining. The gas is considered pipeline quality-- therefore, it needs no processing and can be pumped directly into the pipeline system. According to Kevin Henderson, a geologist with the Mississippi Bureau of Geology in Jackson, the mineral discovery is the first of bituminous coal in Mississippi. Lignite occurs in scattered deposits, but it is not mined.

In 1988, Mississippi consumed about 5 million tons of bituminous coal principally for generating electricity. The coal was obtained mostly from Kentucky, West Virginia, and Illinois.

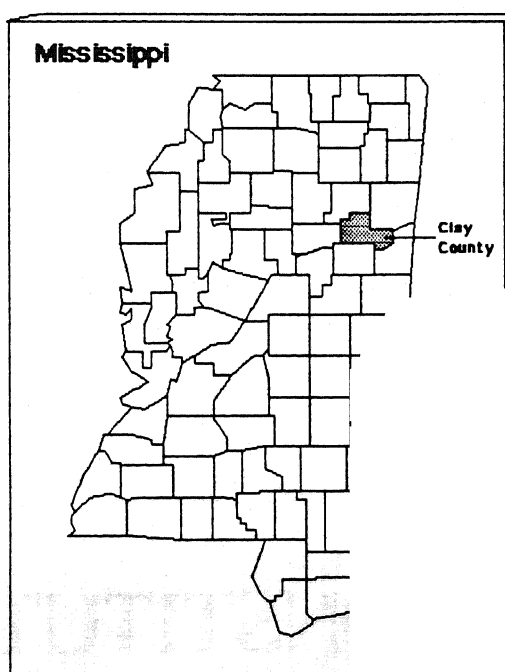
The discovery of coalbed methane in Mississippi may prove to be more exciting than the coal find. Because coalbed methane is considered an unconventional energy source, the U.S. Government will allow gas companies producing it a tax credit of 80 cents per thousand cubic feet until January 1991.

Presently, the Mississippi Bureau of Geology is conducting an investigation for the potential commercialization of the coal and coalbed methane discovery. The results from this report could be available later in May.

Sources: "Preliminary Evaluation of Coal and Coalbed Gas Resource Potential of Western Clay County, Mississippi," Press Release, Mississippi Bureau of Geology (Jackson, MS, February 14, 1989).

"Huge Reserve of Coal, Methane Gas Discovered in Mississippi," Press Release, McGraw-Hill (New Orleans, LA, March 8, 1989).

Press Release, United Press International 1989 (Jackson, MS, March 3, 1989).



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